Prodigies 2931

Chapter 2931 The True Body Steps Forth

Boom!

With a violent clash, Jue Xinghai was obstructed. His pupils shrank, and upon a look, it was another Lin Xun who had appeared right in front of the Green Wood Dao Body. This was naturally Lin Xun's true form.

“Die!” Lin Xun immediately joined the other dao bodies in blasting at Jue Xinghai.

Meanwhile, the Gate of Exile had descended, sending Jue Xinghai into a fit of anxiety. His eyes glowed red as he let out a long, heaven-shaking roar and attacked with all his might. With his cultivation, a desperate charge could sweep away any Immortal expert...but this did not include Lin Xun.

Boom!

In the midst of the intense battle, Jue Xinghai was once again obstructed. His eyes opened wide in disbelief. A young man at the advanced Transcendence Stage was capable of confronting his Will Dharma Form!

This completely toppled Jue Xinghai's perception.

“No, wait!”

When he was about to charge again, the Gate of Exile had already enveloped him. His vision blackened as he was uncontrollably whisked into it and vanished.

Kaboom!

The surrounding area was in disarray. The sudden appearance of the thousand-foot-diameter Gate of Exile that engulfed everything in its descent caused the nearby old relics to freeze. When they tried to evade, it was too late.

“Nooooo!”

“Damnit! What kind of ability is this?!”

“Help me!!!”

Amidst the shouts of anger, panic, and unwillingness, over a dozen old relics got caught within the Gate of Exile and disappeared in a flash. Wang Daofeng and the rest of them, who luckily avoided the disaster, broke out in a cold sweat, and their hairs stood up at the sight of their companions’ fate.

The Eternal Will Dharma Form had been engulfed before it even had a chance to unleash its true might! Their devoured companions were also at the peak of Transcendence, yet facing that spacetime portal, they had been dragged in without any choice in the matter...

That scene wasn’t just unimaginable; it was sinisterly harrowing!

“Gather!”

With a thought of Lin Xun’s true form, the Gate of Exile turned into a streak of light that flew back and wrapped around his fingertips. It could only last for a dozen breaths at the previous size, but after shrinking by countless times, it could last for another fifteen minutes!

Fifteen minutes was enough for Lin Xun. He first put away the severely injured Green Wood Dao Body, and then he and the other four shot murderously towards Wang Daofeng’s group.

Previously, he had rushed this way right after noticing the perilous state of the Green Wood Dao Body. Upon arrival, he had finally understood what the latter had gone through. When he had learned about the instant obliteration of the huge city with millions of living beings, the raging killing intent of the Green Wood Dao Body also burned in his heart.

“Kill him!”

How could Wang Daofeng's group stand still and wait for death? They immediately struck out.

Rumble!

Within an instant, they were scattered and fell out of the sky. Lin Xun and his four dao bodies were like a peerless knife. Despite vastly outnumbering him, the experts of the Ten Clans Alliance were simply powerless before that kind of charge.

Color drained from their faces. Previously, a mere dao body had been able to engage in a long, intense fight with them, even killing several of their companions. Now that Lin Xun and his four other dao bodies were acting together, the killing power being dealt skyrocketed!

"Die!"

Lin Xun's finger drew a stroke. A sword qi flashed out, carrying the speck that was the Gate of Exile as it chopped at the artifact of an old relic.

Clang!

With a deafening explosion, the old relic alongside his artifact vanished from thin air, going straight into the Gate of Exile.

Next, Lin Xun repeated the process. Wherever he passed, a peak Transcendence existence disappeared as if they had simply evaporated. In just several short blinks, six old relics had been exiled!

The bizarre scene struck fear into many opponents, causing them to shudder!

In the other directions, the four dao bodies of Red Flame, White Metal, Black Water, and Yellow Earth were also demonstrating unmatched combat power, attacking left and right with crushing momentum. Their targets tried resisting with everything they had to no avail and were executed on the spot, splashing thick and hot blood.

Watching it all unfolding around him, Wang Daofeng was on the verge of losing his sanity, his eyes close to popping. For this operation, they had gathered forty peak Transcendence experts, thinking that they would be able to dominate Lin Xun with absolute force.

On the contrary, however, the development so far had completely overturned their prediction. First, the Green Wood Dao Body alone had killed four of them. Following that, Jue Xinghai and ten more old relics had been swallowed clean by the Gate of Exile.

Then, Lin Xun and his other dao bodies had put to death nine of them in succession, thus bringing the situation to this point where only sixteen of them were left in the battlefield!

The casualties had made up more than half! If Lin Xun wasn't stopped, it would only rise.

“What are you still waiting for, quickly invite the other two seniors!!!” Wang Daofeng roared so furiously that his voice shook the region.

Instantly, two powerful Eternal auras emerged—a man and a woman.

The man was covered in armor as red as blood, his build as majestic as a mountain. Shrouded in blazing flames, his aura was tremendous. He was Panwu Xiong, an Eternal figure of the Eternal Divine Panwu Clan in the Ninth Heaven Domain!

The woman wore her long hair in a bun and an aqua-green dress. Her fair skin glistened, and strands of Eternal light that resembled water mist lingered around her frame. She was Taihao Hanwei, an Eternal expert of the Eternal Divine Taihao Clan in the Ninth Heaven Domain.

As soon as they appeared, their eyes locked on Lin Xun and his dao bodies with an utterly indifferent look. To their surprise, he totally couldn't care less and directly charged toward them.

“This ant cares little for his life!” Panwu Xiong snorted. He grabbed at the air, and a spear materialized in his grip which he thrusted out.

Boom!

Terrifying Eternal dao light swirled into a vortex around the spear, diffusing a might that seemed capable of breaking through the forever skies and shaking the worlds beyond. In the face of such overbearing power, the Gate of Exile abruptly expanded from a speck to a humongous mouth and made a swallowing movement.

Panwu Xiong immediately had a bad feeling, but when he attempted to move away, Lin Xun's four dao bodies came whistling in on him from different directions.

“Senior, dodge!!!”

Wang Daofeng’s group shrieked so intensely that their voices cracked. They had just intimately witnessed the terror of the Gate of Exile and how it had devoured Jue Xinghai's Will Dharma Form. It was a pity that their reminder was too late.

Boom!

That side of heaven and earth was in disarray as the four dao bodies tangled up Panwu Xiong, keeping him tight in one place.

“Insolent! You dare plot against me?!” hissed Panwu Xiong in utter rage, but in the end, the Gate of Exile swallowed him along with the four dao bodies.

Wang Daofeng's group felt their blood run cold, and their souls almost escaped. How could it be?!

Taihao Hanwei was likewise shocked as her beautiful face cycled through different expressions. She had intended to do something to save Panwu Xiong, but had noticed an extremely bizarre power of time about the Gate of Exile and thus held back.

Now that she had witnessed him being engulfed, she inwardly trembled and appreciated her luck. Otherwise, she probably would have been caught up in it trying to rescue him.

Bang!

At this point, the Gate of Exile ran out of power and collapsed.

“We’re leaving!” Taihao Hanwei decisively chose to leave.

This battle had presented too many creepy and menacing aspects so far. Panwu Xiong's fall especially gave her a hint of a deadly threat. Under this circumstance, the only wise decision left was to leave.

With a wave of her sleeve, she was about to take Wang Daofeng and his group away. Right then, Lin Xun casted the Seal of Temporal Restriction.

Buzz!

The law of time permeating the space began to get pulled. Taking the form of countless wisps of streaming light, they interlaced into a divine and wondrous array that covered the mountains and rivers and the air above.

Lin Xun's true form instantly became pale. Using the Gate of Exile and the Seal of Temporal Restriction in a row greatly depleted his strength. If he kept this up, exhaustion would certainly send him to his doom.

Rumble!

In the distance, Taihao Hanwei, Wang Daofeng, and the others were raining attacks on the Seal of Temporal Restriction. Soon, their hearts sank because their calculation told them it was impossible to break this kind of restriction power in a short period of time. Even if Taihao Hanwei were to use her full power, it would still take several hours!

This reality filled them with shock, anger, and even a wave of bone-drilling chills. Up until this point, Lin Xun on his own had caused them so many casualties. Who would have dared to imagine this before?

“Don't worry, everyone, he is already at his physical limit, it won't take long.” Taihao Hanwei’s eyes shone when she noticed the change in Lin Xun's aura. She reassured the other as a biting murderous intent surfaced on her expression.

Wang Daofeng’s group had been anxious like ants on fire, but when they saw Lin Xun's state, each also revealed a joyous look. He really is!

“You all wait here, I am going to handle him personally,” said Taihao Hanwei coldly.

Her previous decision to retreat instead of confronting a young man in the advanced Transcendence Stage was not a small blow to her dignity. If she didn't make use of this opportunity and take down Lin Xun here, her reputation would be smeared when word got back to the Ninth Heaven Domain.

“No need to rush to your death, none of you can escape.” Lin Xun retrieved a jade bottle and poured a drop of Primordial Divine Dew into his mouth.

Boom!

Something instantly exploded in him. A surging torrent of infinite power began to continuously expand, and his depleted energy recovered in the blink of an eye. His entire aura was returned to its peak state!

This result was the wonder of the Primordial Divine Dew. Lin Xun possessed a total of nine drops, which were one of the greatest rewards he had received after returning to the Origin Sect from the Ten Directions Demon Region.

Every drop of Primordial Divine Dew was considered a precious treasure. Naturally produced from the Divine Rank law of the Origin Sect, they also offered immeasurable benefits to one's cultivation.

The most heaven-defying part about this treasure was that when one was running out of energy in battle, a drop would be all it took to immediately recover to one's peak state! Since Lin Xun had gotten them, he had been reluctant to use any. At this moment, however, he had no qualms about it!

Even from extremely far away, the change in his aura was seen by Taihao Hanwei's group. Each of them looked lightning struck, almost unable to believe their eyes.

They had only gathered the courage to fight Lin Xun when he had been nearly exhausted, but now, facing a fully vibrant him...even an Eternal Will Dharma Form like Taihao Hanwei had an extremely unpleasant feeling.

Chapter 2932 Immeasurable Moon Intent

The Seal of Temporal Restriction covered heaven and earth, turning Taihao Hanwei, Wang Daofeng, and the others into caged beasts. The fact that Lin Xun's exhausted strength had recovered in an instant sent their hearts sinking to the bottom.

How could they still battle him in this situation?

Without giving them a chance to ponder it, Lin Xun stormed in, with his strike aimed right at Taihao Hanwei!

Boom!

The Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron swept out, shooting toward her with a heaven-conquering might.

"Humph!"

Taihao Hanwei's eyes flashed with annoyance as she stepped up and drew a short stroke in the air with her finger. Her faint silver-colored Eternal dao light transformed into a misty blade qi. As it hacked at the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, the latter tremored wildly in deafening rumbles.

However, Lin Xun and his four dao bodies had arrived in the meantime and surrounded her with attacks. His fierceness was overbearing, and his valor was peerless.

This was the first time that Taihao Hanwei had ever been subjected to such a provocation since she had started cultivation. Even if she was only a Will Dharma Form now, what kind of Immortal would have the guts to strike at her so unscrupulously?

However, Lin Xun did! This young man in the advanced Transcendence Stage in front of her was doing just that!

“Focus on breaking the restriction. I shall deal with him.”

While Taihao Hanwei said that, thousands of divine rainbows surged around her elegant figure. Like heavenly chains, they gleamed with a murderous sheen as they engaged with Lin Xun and his dao bodies.

“Make haste!”

Wang Daofeng’s group dared not hesitate. Gritting their teeth with determination, each deployed every measure they had and madly hit at the Seal of Temporal Restriction.

Some catalyzed taboo-level treasures. Some repeatedly chopped out blades imprinted with the energy of time. Some utilized cryptic dao arts.... In order to survive, these old monsters at the peak of Transcendence had gone crazy, using every last drop of their strength and resorting to everything possible.

Any other restriction array would have been destroyed by their joint efforts.

However, the Seal of Temporal Restriction was the fourth stage innate talent of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer. While having no offensive ability, its pure defense allowed it to trap even Eternal Will Dharma Forms for a considerable period even when being subjected to the prisoners’ assault.

Therefore, these Immortal old monsters certainly wouldn't be able to easily break it. However, for the sake of their very lives, none of them gave up.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The Seal of Temporal Restriction continuously rippled out blinding fluctuations in response. Meanwhile, Taihao Hanwei and Lin Xun were also in a fierce battle on the other side.

Coordinating with his dao bodies, Lin Xun was simply heaven-defying at this moment, looking as though he was on a conquest to slay gods. He constantly nullified Taihao Hanwei's attacks and shook her back.

Despite having retracted the Green Wood Dao Body due to its serious injuries, Lin Xun had never shown any signs of falling into a disadvantage. Taihao Hanwei had grown uncertain, as could be seen from her flickering expression. The suspicion in her eyes was getting heavier and heavier.

What she had been most apprehensive about was the Gate of Exile, the one that had swallowed Panwu Xiong's Will Dharma Form. However, she had not expected that even without this skill, Lin Xun proved to be an equal match to her with his own strength!

This is the Eternal Supremacy Path that the Master of Fangchun Mountain had been waiting for!? A chill creeped into Taihao Hanwei's heart.

Even in the Ninth Heaven Domain, there wasn't a Transcendence existence as heaven-defying as Lin Xun! There never had been!

From the fact that he was able to confront Eternal Stage's Will Dharma Forms alone, who on the Immortal path could be his opponent? What was this if not the invincibility of the Eternal Supremacy Path?

If such an Eternal Supreme being is allowed to certify eternity in the future...

Taihao Hanwei inhaled deeply as she didn't dare to delve further into that scenario. Looking at Lin Xun again, her beautiful eyes revealed thick killing intent.

He still hasn't used that ability again. Maybe he's no longer capable of performing it due to some reason?

As she considered this possibility, her offensive momentum became more and more aggressive. She had decided that she would completely destroy Lin Xun here even if it meant sacrificing this Will Dharma Form!

Boom!

Snow-white mist steamed all over her, and this biting cold Eternal power enough to freeze any Immortal to death coalesced into overwhelmingly sharp qi swords, which proceeded to shoot out one after another.

Immeasurable Moon Intent!

It was the Eternal law that she had mastered. Rather, it was deservedly a true law power at this point as it contained the principles of ice, making it boundlessly terrifying. If deployed in the outside world, it could freeze up a hundred thousand miles of land or turn a whole realm into ice in a blink!

After casting this horrifying art, half of the power of her Will Dharma Form was gone!

In an instant, Lin Xun and his four dao bodies were covered by a layer of ghostly blue frost. Their skin, sinews, flesh, internal organs, and even souls felt like they were about to be frozen. Immediately following that, countless snow-white qi swords stabbed at them.

Seeing that Lin Xun and his dao bodies were near being cut down together, at this critical juncture, kabang!

Lin Xun's true form stretched his limbs like breaking out of shackles, and the thick frost all over him exploded and flew everywhere. His entirety seemed to have been lit on fire, releasing an infinite dao light.

This was the profound meaning of the Nirvana law in manifestation. It had shattered the law-containing Immeasurable Moon Intent with sheer force!

Rumble!

At the same time, the four dao bodies also broke free from the icy seal, their auras erupting with very different dao enigmas from that of the true form. The only thing in common was that they all shone radiantly.

The omnipresent Immeasurable Moon Intent melted like ice being exposed to a scorching sun, dissipating into nothingness! Even the white qi swords exploded like a cold firework before they could touch their targets.

“How...”

Taihao Hanwei completely paled. She struggled to accept that the attack that consumed half of her will force to use, that carried the Ice Cold law, that was powerful enough to kill any Immortal...had been dispelled by Lin Xun, a young man at the advanced Transcendence Stage!

It subverted a number of her perceptions of the cultivation path. After all, the Transcendence Stage could only transcend the heavenly laws, only the Eternal Stage could control such a power.

However, this ironclad rule was as good as tossed away in Lin Xun’s case! This young man at the Transcendence Stage was able to resist and dismiss the law of the almighty dao!

If the Ninth Heaven Domain heard about this, it would be a jumpscare. Those Eternal old timers would never be able to sit still again.

“That’s all your Will Dharma Form is capable of? Average at best,” Lin Xun commented, his voice frosty.

He had sparred with Taixuan’s Will Dharma Form. At that time, he had felt great pressure even when he used all five dao bodies, and he had even been wounded. Compared to Taixuan, Taihao Hanwei’s Will Dharma Form was obviously a level weaker.

Taihao Hanwei's pretty face turned unsightly.

Being measured up to in a fight by a young man in the advanced Transcendence Stage had already been a damage to her pride. Now, he was even looking down on her with a scornful remark like that. It was driving her insane.

“If I were here in the flesh, you think you could bark and holler at me like that?!” retorted Taihao Hanwei resentfully.

Lin Xun put on a glaring sneer. “If you were a Transcendence Immortal like me, I would kill you like killing a chicken.”

Both comparisons were hypothetical, but Lin Xun's clearly was more lethal. His was about a same-stage competition, and regarding this, not to mention Taihao Hanwei, no cultivator in the world was a match for him at all.

Meanwhile, Taihao Hanwei's hypothesis was no different from ‘bullying.’ She herself had also realized this, but as vexed and mortified as she was, Lin Xun no longer intended to entertain her.

Boom!

He used the strongest measures to surround Taihao Hanwei, savage and overbearing like a demon god. Having used up half of her energy, she was immediately suppressed. Her form that was condensed from willpower began to undulate and grow blurry.

It didn't take long before a world-shattering bang was heard. Taihao Hanwei's Will Dharma Form was blown apart! The marker of her end was a beautiful rain of light. It cascaded like a waterfall, reflecting heaven and earth.

In her final moments, she had emitted a furious scream permeated with bone-deep hatred, declaring that she would rip Lin Xun's head off one day. The man on the receiving end was naturally too lazy to care. Over his life, far too many worse threats had been thrown at him.

“This isn't good!”

“How can this be...”

“He can even shatter Eternal Will Dharma Forms?!”

In the distance, Wang Daofeng’s group stopped in the middle of their desperate bombardment on the Seal of Temporal Restriction. Washed over by shock and fear, their faces turned livid and their heads spun.

This time, Lin Xun hadn't used any taboo abilities; he had relied purely on his combat prowess to extinguish Taihao Hanwei's Will Dharma Form. It was nothing but an appalling feat, and anyone who witnessed it would probably be frightened.

“Now, do you want to continue?” Lin Xun looked over at them.

Their faces alternated between blue and white. Indescribable dejection and despair welled up within them. How were they supposed to fight?

“I’ll risk my life with him!” one of them shouted through gritted teeth and hurled themselves at Lin Xun.

Boom!

Lin Xun's true form remained in place while the four dao bodies charged out together. In a flash, they blasted the old relic to death on the spot, spilling blood like rain. The manner was crisp and clean like killing a mortal chicken!

Many shivered. They were all relics as old as eons, but at this moment, they strongly felt what it meant to be a fish on a butcher's chopping block.

One person viciously clenched his jaws. “Lin Xun, what you're doing will only invite a huge calamity and push the Origin Sect to the point of no turning back...”

Before he could finish, boom!

Lin Xun had teleported in and, in a flash of lightning, struck down the speaker. The rest were so shocked that they fled everywhere, losing all composure in horror.

“Who else?” Lin Xun asked, his indifferent voice echoing like a soul-reaping call.

All of the old relics felt unprecedented humiliation and fear.

Before this trip, they had gathered forty perfect Transcendence experts and carried three Eternal Will Dharma Forms. They had arrived with great vigor, thinking that they could plow through the land and easily exterminate Lin Xun.

Who could have dreamed of this scene where they were about to follow in the footsteps of Wang Daoxing and their fallen companions?! This blow was too heavy!

Seeing that he wasn't going to get an answer, Lin Xun hesitated no longer and launched his final killing spree.

Kaboom!

Inside the Seal of Temporal Restriction, destructive energies raged and dao lights sped about. Every now and then, the scarlet color of blood splashed, angry and mournful screams resounded, the sound of flesh bursting echoed...

In a matter of moments, Wang Daofeng and the rest of the remaining old relics had been slaughtered!

Chapter 2933 Nirvana’d Back to Life

When the dust settled, Lin Xun stood inside the Seal of Temporal Restriction. Looking around, there were no more opponents. His dao bodies were cleaning up the trophies from the battlefield.

“Whew~” After half a day, the true form let out a long, satisfying breath. After everything, aside from the fact that the Green Wood Dao Body had been seriously injured and needed to recuperate for a while, he had incurred no other losses.

The battle with Taihao Hanwei let Lin Xun realize that even in the same Eternal Stage, not everyone's Will Dharma Form was as powerful as Taixuan’s! At the very least, he hadn't needed to use his innate talent to kill her Will Dharma Form.

A long time later, his dao bodies finished sorting out the loot. Judging from experience, nearly all of the treasures carried by peak Transcendence experts were related to the cultivation of this realm. Naturally, they could also fulfill Lin Xun's needs.

With these, I won't be worrying about not having enough resources to advance to the perfection stage.

While thinking that, he collected his four dao bodies and exited the Seal of Temporal Restriction. Around him, the terrains had crumbled, and everything had died. All that was left was a depressing and dilapidated scene.

Before, there had been a lofty and magnificent city here. It had been prosperous and lively, inhabited by countless beings. It had been vibrant, happy, and peaceful. However, all of that had fizzled out in an instant, as if none of them had ever existed.

Lin Xun was quite shocked by this. Gazing at this cold and dead scene, he couldn't help but lament in his heart.

Life was a cradle of uncertainty, where death could befall without following any rules. If cultivators did whatever they pleased and treated all living beings like grass, the world was doomed to be a place of misery and suffering.

Lin Xun knew very well that this was not the first time such a thing had happened nor would it be the last. The only thing he could do was abide by his own morality, maintain a bottom line, a good will where it was possible, and avoid doing things that only those devoid of conscience could think of.

Hmm?

Suddenly, his gaze focused on a certain place. The next second, he teleported into the ruins of the once giant city, and picked up a mutilated jade pendant from the rubble. Despite its state, the pendant stored a drop of blood, one that was full of vitality.

“When the moment of destruction hit, this pendant must have been triggered and preserved its owner’s essence blood.” Lin Xun roughly guessed the story.

After some contemplation, he placed the damaged jade pendant in his palm and operated his Immortal law, sending strands into the bright red drop inside the pendant. Instantly, the drop of blood trembled nonstop as if boiling.

Bang!

The pendant burst, and the drop of blood floated into Lin Xun's palm, bathed in his Immortal law in a process similar to remodeling and nirvana. Gradually, the vitality in the blood became denser and more active...

“Looks like...it's actually feasible!” Lin Xun's eyes lit up in excitement.

Previously, the Nirvana law power had been used on different law powers such as Wushuang, Little Nether, Little Immortal, etc., all of whom had gotten nurtured and repaired. This was the first time Lin Xun had tried its ability on a drop of essence blood!

If this attempt succeeded, it would mean that the Nirvana law could even be used to bring the dead back to life. Cultivators, after reaching the Saint Stage, could rely on their own power to recover back from a remaining drop of their essence blood, as long as it still contained vitality.

However, this drop of blood he had found clearly didn't originate from a cultivator. While it had vitality, no dao energy could be detected from it. In short, it was left by a mortal. It was simply impossible for any cultivator to bring this kind of life blood back to the living person. However, under the nourishment of the Nirvana law power, this one drop was undergoing an astonishing metamorphosis!

Rustle~

It wasn't long before the drop of essence blood began to tumble, growing larger and larger. Wrapped by the power of Nirvana, it gradually transformed into a small, illusory figure.

At that instant, an indescribable joy washed over Lin Xun. Cultivators had the ability to turn stone to gold, but almost no one was able to bring the dead back to life and reconstruct a living being!

Even one as powerful as an Eternal character found it impossible to resurrect a mortal who has been dead for a long time, for this involved the supreme dao of fate. However, at this very moment, Lin Xun realized that the Nirvana law seemed to possess such a forbidden ability.

Of course, strictly speaking, this drop of blood still preserved some vitality and wasn't totally dead. Nonetheless, the fact that it belonged to a mortal was the important part here. Resurrecting it would be considered a reversal of heavenly fate!

Soon, in Lin Xun's view, a little girl about six or seven years old who wore her short hair in pigtails appeared.

Confusion was written in her big eyes as she said in a daze, "Where's daddy?"

The little girl's memories were still there, allowing Lin Xun to instantly perceive her circumstances from her memory.

Her name was Tang Jiang, she was six years old. Since birth, she had a weak constitution that prevented her from cultivating, but she had a father who loved her dearly and took her with him wherever he went. However, all of that had all changed tonight. That moment when the calamity had befallen, her father had covered her under his body and shoved the life-saving jade pendant into her arms...

He had died in the disaster. His daughter should have stood zero chance as well under a horrible calamity of that scale. However, she was nourished by the power of the Nirvana law and attained rebirth. Her flesh had been rebuilt, and here she was, alive again.

As Lin Xun saw the scene of that father protecting his daughter out of pure instinct, complicated emotions welled up in his heart.

"Uncle, where am I? Where is my father?" asked Tang Jiang in a crisp voice, her black eyes wide open.

She didn't realize that both her father and the city had long since been destroyed all together.

With pity, Lin Xun said softly, “Your father entrusted you to me. From now on, I'll teach you the way of cultivation. Your father is looking forward to you becoming a capable cultivator.”

A dazed Tang Jiang said, “But I...can't cultivate.”

Lin Xun stroked her little head and laughed. “If I say you can, then you absolutely can.”

Tang Jiang was delighted. “Really?”

Lin Xun earnestly said, “I won't lie to you.”

Tang Jiang asked, “Then...when can I see my father?”

Lin Xun's heart ached, but he put on a smile. “I'll tell you later after your cultivation has accomplished our goal.”

“Okay,” Tang Jiang agreed loudly, her little face determined.

Lin Xun took a deep breath before saying with a solemn look, “Lass, from now on, you are my second disciple. My name is Lin Xun, my dharma name is Daoyuan. I am the fiftieth disciple of Fangchun Mountain, and a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion in the Origin Sect. Moving forward...your master will make sure sufferings like today won't ever happen to you again.”

Saying that, he picked up Tang Jiang and rested her head on his shoulder. Then, he left this place in large strides.

Many years later, whenever she thought back to today's scene, Emperor Shang, whose name had shaken the world and reigned supreme over the nine heavens, who was revered and admired by billions of beings, would reveal a nostalgic look.

It was her master who had given her a new life. It was also him who had led her onto the path of cultivation.

She took ‘Shang’ as her dharma name to remember her late father. The only time she was Tang Jiang was when she was with her master. [1]

Of course, all of this happened in the very far future.

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Before hitting the road, Lin Xun placed Tang Jiang in the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron.

He had decided to leave the Sixth Heaven Domain. After this battle, the Ten Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain had suffered heavy casualties. They were destined to stop sending more, so there was no point in lingering here any longer.

On the same day, Lin Xun left the Sixth Heaven Domain.

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Such a world-shaking battle was impossible to be kept under wraps. Soon, word of Lin Xun fighting the Ten Clans Alliance powerhouses spread throughout the Sixth Heaven Domain, once again creating a huge sensation.

At the same time, the bad news quickly reached the Eighth Heaven Domain.

The Wang Clan, in a grand hall.

“It's been three days. Why have they not sent back anything?” Patriarch Fu Chaolan of the Fu Clan frowned as he felt a wave of anxiety for no obvious reason.

Ever since sending Wang Daofeng and a bunch of other old relics to the Sixth Heaven Domain, he and the other leaders of the Ten Immortal Giant had been waiting at the Wang Clan.

However, no news had come back so far.

Someone smiled. “Brother Fu, take it easy. Lin Xun may be hiding, so it makes sense that it will take some time to track him down.”

“That’s right. Let us be patient as we wait for the good news.” The other clan heads all looked relaxed.

This time, their Ten Immortal Giants had sent out forty peak Transcendence experts plus three Eternal Will Dharma Forms, which was a lineup strong enough to wipe out even their own alliance. It would be a farce if they failed to capture Lin Xun again this time!

“Everyone, don't take this lightly. Since the Origin Sect has also gotten involved, I fear it will take a lot of effort to seize Lin Xun.” Wang Zhongtian spoke up with a smile and a nonchalant demeanor despite his cautious response.

Even the Origin Sect wouldn't have guessed that the Ten Clans Alliance would dispatch such a mighty force, Wang Zhongtian was sure of this. As a result, it would definitely catch the other party off guard!

“Hehe, even if the Origin Sect deploys those deputy pavilion masters of them altogether, they would still be a mantis before a chariot!” one laughed coldly.

“Come, come, have some wine.” Wang Zhongtian raised his cup.

Right at this moment, a frantic yell resounded outside the grand hall, “Patriarch, we...we have an emergency! The group of seniors who traveled to the Sixth Heaven Domain this time have all... They have all fallen!!!”

The announcement was a bolt from the blue. The ten clan leaders froze in place. The atmosphere, too, became tense to the extreme all of a sudden.

“What did you say?!” Wang Zhongtian seemed to be in utter disbelief.

Outside the hall, an old servant prostrated himself on the ground, his voice trembling, “Patriarch, they are all dead, all dead! None of them survived!”

Bang!

The cup in Wang Zhongtian's hand shattered, but he was oblivious to it. Slumping in his chair, he stared blankly into space. His soul drifted away.

As for the other nine clan leaders, some were beside themselves with shock and anger, some were shivering, their eyes bloodshot and their breathing labored. Some were even so furious that their visions went black, and they coughed out a mouthful of blood!

“It's over... We're done for...” one murmured, his face had taken on the color of dirt. He looked as though every bit of strength had been drained from him.

The spacious hall was filled with a dull, depressing air. This awful news was undoubtedly a bolt from the blue for any of these Immortal Giants. The sky was collapsing on them!

Chapter 2934 He Returns

Among the Ten Immortal Giants, the Wang Clan was the strongest in terms of heritage and influence. As powerful as it was, though, it had only produced nine peak Transcendence experts over countless years.

Many years ago, Wang Zhongyuan had been killed by Lin Xun. Not long ago, Wang Daoxing had died in the Sixth Heaven Domain, also at the same hands. Now, their group of four peak Transcendence experts led by Wang Daofeng had all fallen.

This meant that the Wang Clan, which was known as the number one Immortal Giant, only had three peak Transcendence experts left...

Over half of the top pillars of the Wang Clan had died. It wasn’t just a great diminution of overall power; it had shaken their very foundation!

True, the Wang Clan still had a few Transcendence figures left, but within a short period of time, it was almost impossible to produce another batch of peak Transcendence Immortals. This was partly why Patriarch Wang Zhongtian appeared so out of sorts after hearing the bad news.

If that was already the case with the number one Immortal Giant, one could imagine how serious the situation was for the other nine.

The most miserable was the Fu Clan. They initially had seven peak Transcendence experts, but now, there was only one left. The other Immortal Giants were roughly in the same boat as the Wang Clan, with around only two or three remaining...

Without exaggeration, Lin Xun had, by virtue of his own strength, heavily wounded the Ten Immortal Giants and dealt them a disastrous blow through the two battles in the Sixth Heaven Domain.

That was the key reason why these clan leaders had lost their composure so completely. Without the protection of enough peak Transcendence experts, their status as Immortal Giants in the Eighth Heaven Domain would become precarious!

“Brother Wang, please excuse me.” Fu Chaolan was the first to get up. He took his leave with an ashen face.

After such a tragic occurrence, he had to return to his clan and personally preside over the situation. Otherwise, he feared the members would be on edge and it would lead to various more turmoil. After him, the other clan heads also left one after another, each with a grim, unsightly look and a heavy heart.

Soon, only Wang Zhongtian remained. He sat there in a daze, his expression constantly shifting. Only after a long time did he let out a long sigh, “It's over...”

Wang Zhongtian knew that from today onwards, the Ten Clans Alliance would exist in name only, and the Ten Immortal Giants would never again be able to gather sufficient forces to take revenge on the Origin Sect.

Even more depressing was the fact that, moving forward, they had to defend themselves as well as their long-standing position in the Eighth Heaven Domain! Wang Zhongtian had a premonition that once Lin Xun learned of the Ten Immortal Giants' situation, he would definitely exploit it!

"Come," Wang Zhongtian called, his voice heavy and slightly hoarse.

"Awaiting your orders, my lordship." An old servant appeared outside the grand hall.

Wang Zhongtian said, "Go and announce my explicit order: all members scattered in the outside world must return within three days at the longest! Also, no clansmen may leave clan territory without my permission, or else they shall be heavily punished!"

The old servant solemnly accepted, "Yes!"

"Go." Wang Zhongtian waved his hand.

After the old servant left, Wang Zhongtian heaved a long sigh and decided to personally pay the Ninth Heaven Domain a visit.

Whether it was to deal with the Origin Sect or with Lin Xun, the factions of the Eighth Heaven Domain were bound to be useless. Only the Divine Clans of the Ninth Heaven Domain could solve the problem!

However, this plan provided Wang Zhongtian no assurance. The epochal calamity was coming within a thousand years. He knew that unless the matter was very important, the bigwigs of those Eternal Divine Clans would never descend to the lower domains.

"No matter what, it's worth a try!" Wang Zhongtian gritted his teeth as he made up his mind.

.....

In a hall in the Spirit Sect.

“Senior Sister, Senior Sister...”

Cheng Yu's graceful figure dashed into the hall. She excitedly said, “Junior Brother won. A triumphant victory!”

Ruo Su, Xue Ya, Pu Zhen, and the other disciples of Fangchun Mountain were having a conversation inside. Upon hearing Cheng Yu's news, their eyes lit up in unison.

“What did the news say?” asked Xue Ya with delight.

Cheng Yu's voice was crisp as she replied, “In the two battles, a total of fifty peak Transcendence powerhouses from the Ten Clans Alliance were wiped out—all killed by Junior Brother! There's even a rumor he also destroyed five Eternal Will Dharma Forms!”

Everyone collectively gasped, shaken by this number.

“Junior Brother has gotten so powerful now?” Xue Ya clicked his tongue.

Back then, after he and Pu Zhen had escaped from Taiyu True Realm, Venerable Buddha Shiye and a group of enemies from the Zen Sect had been hot on their heels. In the end, they had hidden in the Cloud Guardian Workshop and coincidentally met Lin Xun.

At the time, the latter had only been a Heavenly Longevity Immortal. How many years have passed since then? Lin Xun had not only reached the advanced Transcendence Stage, but he had also executed fifty peak Transcendence experts by himself! In the process, he had even exterminated five Eternal Will Dharma Forms!

Such a battle record was enough to astonish all ages.

Ruo Su said softly, “Don't forget, our junior brother is the lotus that Master waited forever for, all to seek the power of Eternal Supreme. Only by being able to accomplish that kind of feat is he worthy of the word ‘supreme.’”

Xue Ya had an odd look on his face. “That’s right, he's as good as the supreme lord on the immortal path now. Who dared to imagine that he could kill even Eternal Will Dharma Forms?”

The quiet Pu Zhen suddenly wondered, “So to speak, his current cultivation has surpassed the rest of us in Fangchun Mountain?”

That question caused the crowd to look at each other in a strange atmosphere. They suddenly didn't know how they should feel. Back then, their youngest junior brother had been so small and weak in their eyes, but today...he was already stronger than all of them...

“Not necessarily,” Ruo Su murmured. “Whether or not his fighting prowess can be called number one among us depends on whether or not Eldest Senior Brother has certified eternity yet.”

The rest was stunned.

“Third Senior Sister, you're not suggesting that during these years being trapped in Taiyu True Realm, Eldest Senior Brother...most likely has reached eternity?!” Cheng Yu blurted out.

Ruo Su smiled and shook her head. “I don't know, but according to my understanding of Eldest Senior Brother, as long as there is a sliver of chance to do it, he would never miss it.”

“Senior Sister, the Ten Immortal Giants have suffered heavy casualties. Why don't we take this opportunity and visit the Eighth Heaven Domain?” Xue Ya proposed with burning eyes.

The others were also tempted by this suggestion.

Indeed, the Ten Immortal Giants had been heavily wounded and landed in an extremely tough situation. There was even hope to raze their lairs to the ground!

“Don't forget that both the Zen Sect and the Shaman Sect have yet to act. They are much more dangerous than the Ten Immortal Giants.” Ruo Su's expression became serious. “I originally thought their forces would also show up in the Sixth Heaven Domain, but clearly that's not the case. The more quiet they are, the more alert we must be.”

“Don’t tell me we'll have to sit around like this until they move?” Xue Ya frowned, quite unwilling to accept this idea.

Although Lin Xun's great victory made him feel extraordinarily proud and honored, as a senior brother, watching his youngest junior brother fighting alone left a bad taste in his mouth.

Ruo Su warmly reassured, “Don't be anxious. The time to decide the ultimate winner has yet to come. Let's not rush the end, not after we've been waiting patiently for so many years. I know that we all want to help Junior Brother, but just as I had discussed with him before, the biggest help is us staying still so that he can be at ease when he fights his battles. When the right time comes, and it will, we can all step right in!”

Xue Ya sighed, “I'm just worried that when the right time comes, lil’ Junior Brother will have already swept away all those enemies...”

Everyone was speechless.

Ruo Su was stunned as well. She gave it some thought and realized that this was actually quite possible! She took a deep breath and said, “No matter what, let's wait and see how the situation turns out.”

Not to mention Xue Ya and the others, even she herself was a bit upset. She couldn't wait to go out and fight alongside Lin Xun as early as possible.

However, Ruo Su knew better. Once they moved, it was highly likely that they would be targeted by the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect. It would lead to too many variables and, worst-case scenario, they might affect Lin Xun!

Therefore, they could only wait, wait for a truly suitable time. For example, when the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect couldn't hold back anymore and finally acted!

.....

In the grand central hall of the Origin Sect, Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, and the other four deputy pavilion masters all exhaled a long breath. They then glanced at each other and burst out laughing. The laughter filled with elation and ease echoed in the spacious hall for a long time.

“That kid, he's simply invincible!” said Xuan Feiling emotionally as he slapped his thigh at the end of it.

They were the first batch to know about the deaths of Wang Daofeng's group of forty old relics. This news was simply joy from heaven, washing away all previous worries. It also left them as shocked as they were excited.

Although they didn't have the details of the battle, they knew clearly that Lin Xun could now be called the number one expert under the Eternal Stage after such an achievement! One could browse all history and present and still wouldn't find another one in all heavens! Even they, the old monsters, could only lament their inferiority.

“I’m willing to bet the Ten Immortal Giants are so on edge right now!” Dugu Yong laughed up at the sky, feeling satisfaction permeating every fiber of his being.

Everyone else was also laughing so hard they were unable to close their mouths. At first, they had all been worried after hearing that Lin Xun was going to go out there and fight alone. How could they have ever imagined it would turn out like this? All on his own, he had routed and caused devastating damage to the Ten Clans Alliance!

They could say with certainty that after these two battles, the Ten Clans Alliance, established to deal with the Origin Sect, now existed in name only. Those Ten Immortal Giants were no longer able to make another move against them!

Suddenly, a clear voice resounded outside the hall. “What is it that delights all of you so, Seniors?”

Xuan Feiling and the others stiffened. They subconsciously got up and looked outside the hall at once. A tall figure had appeared there at some point. He was dressed in moon-white clothes, as ethereal and elegant as ever. Who was it if not Lin Xun himself?

Their old hearts tumbled in emotions. After what seemed like half a day, all of them smiled broadly and walked over to welcome him back.

Chapter 2935 Decision

In the grand central hall, the desks were covered with delicacies. Lin Xun's return was welcomed with grand hospitality by the other seven deputy pavilion masters.

During the banquet, Xuan Feiling's group asked every question they had about the battle that happened in the Sixth Heaven Domain. Lin Xun left out no details and answered them all.

For a while, exclamations and astonished sighs resounded on end. The more they learned about the details, the more their old hearts trembled, and the more they realized how heaven-defying Lin Xun's combat prowess was.

Especially, when it got to the part where Lin Xun had destroyed Taihao Hanwei's Will Dharma Form using solely his own strength, the crowd of old monsters froze and stared at each other with wide-opened eyes.

After taking a good while to recover from this shock, they looked at Lin Xun strangely, and only when the latter started to feel fidgety did they hurriedly change the topic.

“Seniors, I intend to head to the Eighth Heaven Domain next,” Lin Xun announced.

The single sentence plunged the lively atmosphere into silence.

Xuan Feiling said with a serious expression, “I actually expected this. But this time, I can't just indulge you. I know that the Ten Immortal Giants have been heavily wounded, and they are in a situation so precarious that we can easily deal them a fatal blow. But if you really just go like that, I fear what awaits you will only be something disastrous.”

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes. “Can you elaborate?”

Fang Daoping calmly explained, “Behind each Immortal Giant stands an Eternal Divine Clan. For instance, behind the Wang Clan is the Divine Cang Clan, and behind the Zu Clan is the Divine Yuan Clan...

“This time, the Ten Immortal Giants suffered such a crushing defeat that has shaken their very foundation. How could they not predict the likely possibility of you pushing on and killing your way into the Eighth Heaven Domain?

“There's no doubting it, the Ten Immortal Giants must have already made the attempt to seek help from those Eternal Divine Clans in the Ninth Heaven Domain!”

Dugu Yong agreed, “Since the beginning of time, only the Eighth Heaven Domain has a path to the Ninth Heaven Domain. If the latter is the lair of those Eternal Divine Clans, then the former is the gate of this lair and the Ten Immortal Giants are the guard dogs.

“It’s not a big deal if you beat the dogs, but if you kill them, who will guard the gate for them from there on? That's why it's very likely the forces of the Divine Clans will be waiting to strike at you once you get to the Eighth Heaven Domain. That's the real danger here.”

Just as Dugu Yong finished speaking, Xuan Feiling continued, “It is true that those Eternal Divine Clans are preparing for the incoming epochal calamity and thus have little time for anything else. However, once a situation arises that can threaten their well-being, how could they possibly stand by and do nothing?”

Yu Xing added, “What's more, the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect have been keeping their troops still, making them the most worrying threat. This also demands caution.”

Seeing that Yuan Wutian, Tong Chaoyun, and Zhang Qianxi were about to add their pieces too, Lin Xun hurriedly waved his hands and smiled wryly. “Seniors, I've got it.”

“Then, are you still going to the Eighth Heaven Domain?” asked Xuan Feiling.

The other old monsters also stared at Lin Xun. It looked like as long as he dared to say yes, they would continue to dissuade him until the cows came home.

Lin Xun said helplessly, “I'll listen to you.”

The crowd burst out laughing. In fact, after listening to their analysis, Lin Xun had also realized it was not possible to take this opportunity and uproot the Ten Immortal Giants this time.

The reason was the existence of two greater threats. One was the power of the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect. The other was the Eternal Divine Clans in the Ninth Heaven Domain. Once he traveled to the Eighth Heaven Domain, these two threats would surely exploit the opening!

“There are only about twenty years left before Pavilion Master You Beihai certifies eternity. During this period of time, you should stay in the Origin Sect and focus on your cultivation,” Dugu Yong proposed.

Lin Xun nodded, then asked, “Seniors, when the epochal calamity descends, how should our sect go about resolving it?”

At this question, Xuan Feiling and the rest fell silent.

Only after a long time did Xuan Feiling whisper, “We’ll discuss it after Pavilion Master You Beihai has certified his Eternal dao.”

For the Origin Sect, You Beihai’s Eternal tribulation would be the most important matter until it was done. When that time arrived, the Divine Rank law power of the sect would be affected by the tribulation power, thus leaving the entire Origin World without shelter.

If the forces of the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect marched to their door during such a circumstance, a war of unpredictable scale was destined to break out.

Since it was decided for now, Lin Xun asked no more.

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After the banquet ended, Lin Xun headed straight to the Ninth Peak. Seeing him, Mo Lanshan clasped his fist with booming laughter, “Ninth Peak Master Mo Lanshan greets Deputy Pavilion Master Lin!”

Lin Xun smiled wryly. “Senior, it's just us. Why do we still need to stick to these formalities?”

After that purging operation within the sect, former Ninth Peak Master Qin Wuwu had been promoted to Origin Emptiness Pavilion elder. The peak master position left by him had been taken over by Mo Lanshan.

Mo Lanshan smilingly said, “If you don't want to be bound by etiquettes, why are you still calling me senior? Just call me Old Mo from now on.”

Lin Xun readily agreed.

Mo Lanshan welcomed Lin Xun into the hall and personally brewed some tea for him before asking, “I thought you were in seclusion? Why the sudden visit? Is there something you need my help with?”

Lin Xun got to the point, “I have taken in a disciple who is only six years old and has never practiced cultivation. For the next period of time, I may have to continue my seclusion and will have no time to teach her, so I came here hoping she could start under the Ninth Peak.”

Mo Lanshan was surprised. “When did you go out and get a disciple?”

“A few days ago.” Lin Xun said.

He glossed it over as Xuan Feiling’s group had decided to put a lid on his battle with the Ten Clans Alliance and taken measures accordingly. They didn't want the entire Origin Sect to know about it.

Mo Lanshan didn't pry. He smiled. “No worry, just leave her to me.”

With a wave of Lin Xun's sleeve, Tang Jiang appeared. The little girl curiously surveyed her surroundings and asked, “Master, where is this?”

Lin Xun introduced with a smile, “Your future home. This is Peak Master Mo. From today, you will first learn to cultivate from him.”

Tang Jiang said anxiously, “Master, don't you want me?”

Mo Lanshan chortled. “Your master is going to be in seclusion for a period of time, when he comes out of seclusion, you'll be able to return to cultivate by his side.”

Tang Jiang was still uneasy. She kept staring at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun cracked a reassuring smile as he rubbed her little head. “Peak Master Mo is right. Your master does need to go into seclusion for a while.”

Tang Jiang then sighed like she was relieved and said crisply, “I'll listen to you, Master!”

Lin Xun and Mo Lanshan exchanged a look and both laughed.

From this day on, Tang Jiang stayed at the Ninth Peak and learned to cultivate. Being six years old, she was warmly welcomed by all the disciples. When it was learned that she was Lin Xun's final disciple, even some of the core disciples were envious.

.....

After returning to his abode, Lin Xun sat down cross-legged.

“There are only about twenty years until Pavilion Master You Beihai certifies eternity, and my cultivation is still quite a distance away from the perfection of this stage...”

He gradually fell into thought. Since he had decided to give up on going to the Eighth Heaven Domain, all of his focus was steered toward cultivation.

There was no shortcut to reach the perfect stage from the advanced stage of Transcendence. Take the number one Immortal Giant Wang Clan for example, they had over a hundred Transcendence experts, but only nine of them had actually reached the perfection stage in countless years. From this, one could see how difficult it was to reach this level.

However, Lin Xun wasn't worried. He had no shortage of cultivation resources, only time. If he devotedly cultivated for about twenty years, he should be able to achieve this.

“There's also the Nirvana law, which is only about sixty percent refined.”

Lin Xun recalled the scene in the Sixth Heaven Domain where he had fought those relics of the Ten Clans Alliance.

It could be said that his Immortal law, which had fused with sixty percent of the Nirvana law power, had played a crucial role in that battle. This was also the key why he was able to display supreme invincible might.

Even Taihao Hanwei's Immeasurable Moon Intent, which contained the power of a law, had been dissolved by his Immortal law. It wasn't hard to imagine how terrifying the power of the Nirvana law was.

To a certain extent, the Immortal law in his control could now shake the principles of heaven and earth! Furthermore, this was only sixty percent of the Nirvana law power at play. If all of it was fused, his law would unquestionably be even more incredible.

However, Lin Xun also understood that even if he poured all his energy and time into refining the Nirvana law in the following years, he still wouldn't be able to completely absorb it.

Firstly, there wasn't enough time. Secondly, refining the Nirvana law was truly too challenging a process. He had been in seclusion for forty-five years previously, but had only managed to refine sixty percent of it.

Lin Xun wasn't in a hurry, though. As far as he was concerned, achieving this before his Eternal certification was adequate.

There's also my innate abilities. The Blade of Time and the Seal of Temporal Restriction need their potential further explored...

Lin Xun quickly got to pondering on his innate talent. He had thoroughly tapped into all the wonders the Gate of Exile had to offer. On the other hand, he had not completely mastered the Blade of Time and the Seal of Temporal Restriction.

This was especially true with the Blade of Time, which he had inherited from the Omega Lord. As of now, Lin Xun had barely used it in battle. However, this divine ability also belonged to the third stage of his innate talent, so if utilized properly, it was destined to be very powerful.

As for the Seal of Temporal Restriction, not much was needed to be said. Its defensive power was definitely at the top of the world. However, Lin Xun found its coverage to be quite limited as it had only reached thousand feet of space.

In the far past when the Eternal Night Divine Emperor had used the Seal of Temporal Restriction, it had covered the entire Flowing Light Forbidden Realm and couldn't be budged even by Eternal characters!

That was the true power of the Seal of Temporal Restriction!

Chapter 2936 The Dao of Karma, The Power of Fate

From the day Lin Xun had begun his seclusion, ten years had flown by.

Today, Xia Zhi awoke from her long dormancy in the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, marking a joyous event for him. He got busy cooking up all kinds of delicacies for her and accompanied her for a satisfying meal.

During the meal, Lin Xun noticed the obvious and complete change in Xia Zhi’s aura. He couldn't help from asking curiously. “What realm have you reached?”

Xia Zhi got up and looked at him with her clear eyes. “Wanna find out for yourself?”

Lin Xun was stumped.

Clang!

The bone spear materialized in Xia Zhi's fair and delicate hand. Lin Xun's cheeks twitched a little as he wanted to slap his own mouth. Why could he just not help bringing up this kind of topic?

“Come, let me see if you have improved during these years.” Xia Zhi's voice sounded like heavenly music, but the words she uttered were full of provocation.

Lin Xun was unable to sit still. What kind of man would wimp out on this? In the past ten years, his fusion with the Nirvana law had reached the seventy percent mark, and his cultivation had also shown faint signs of breaking into the perfection stage.

Even his mastery of the Blade of Time had reached a level where he could deploy it comfortably at a whim, like it had become a part of him. It was also then that he finally realized how terrifyingly strong this innate talent could be.

Once it was executed, the law of time between heaven and earth would be reversed, as if coming to a standstill. It was extremely similar to Time Stopping, but the difference was that it was like a weapon that could be used in battle for a long time!

Lin Xun had tested the Blade of Time using his maximum power, and it had lasted for roughly fifteen minutes. That was to say, as long as he managed to get its power to sweep through the enemy within fifteen minutes, their longevity and cultivation would be instantly stripped away.

In short, it was reversing time and severing one's dao from them!

Of course, Lin Xun wouldn't use this kind of tactic on Xia Zhi. He stood up and reminded her, “Xia Zhi, let's not get excessive, we should stop when...”

Before he finished speaking, the spear in Xia Zhi's grip had already stabbed out without a shred of hesitation. Apparently, she thought that he was spewing too much nonsense...

Boom!

The thrust was simple, direct, and brimming with an obscure atmosphere. It looked like it was stabbing straight, but it felt omnipresent and impossible to figure out. The creepiest thing was that the spear was filled with a peculiar power, as if upon a slightest taint from it, one would be pulled into a bizarre torrent and trapped forever.

Lin Xun's pupils shank. How could he dare react slowly? He responded immediately and with his full strength.

Boom!

He made a seal with his fingers, taking the thrust head-on, but a strange scene followed. The spear was clearly right in front of him, but it suddenly disappeared, causing his strike to miss.

This isn't good!

Lin Xun instinctively dodged.

Rip!

The clothes at his shoulder were shredded and fluttered like butterflies. The white spear made of bone scraped past the skin.

Lin Xun broke out in a cold sweat. If he hadn't evaded in time, this strike could have blown a hole through his chest!

“What kind of grand dao power was it?” he asked.

“The power of karma, the power of fate.” replied Xia Zhi in her clear voice. As she spoke, she shook her wrist, sending her weapon stabbing out again.

Lin Xun didn't even have time to think. Focusing his mind, spirit, and qi, he ran his Immortal law to the extreme.

At that instant, a vast and long river filled his senses. It poured out of nothingness and ran into infinite unknown depths. Countless esoteric power fluctuations tumbled and rushed in this river, a power that felt impossible to understand.

Lin Xun instantly knew that this was the aura of fate! Condensed by the dao of karma and executed by Xia Zhi with a spear, the seemingly simple strike was as unfathomable as heavenly predestination.

Boom!

While perceiving this, Lin Xun didn't slow down. He coalesced his Immortal law into a qi sword and slashed it down from above.

CLANG!

The qi sword collided with the bone spear, and in Lin Xun's senses, the river of fate shook violently and collapsed.

“You’ve made good progress, being able to block this kind of power.” Xia Zhi seemed a little surprised as she swung her spear and attacked again.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, had regained his calm. The power of fate was indeed abstruse and mysterious. When applied in combat, it was even more difficult to guard against, and ordinary experts were bound to be powerless before it.

However, the solution was also very simple: use force to fight force. There was no other way around it. This was like fighting the invisible heaven, like cultivators crossing their tribulations. It was impossible to figure out, impossible to run from. It must be confronted. Fail to overcome it, and one would be doomed to die!

Such an experience was indescribably strange and also dangerous beyond imagination. Fortunately, Lin Xun could feel that fighting with his Immortal law was enough to deal with the attack from Xia Zhi.

The dao of karma, in the final analysis, was a grand dao. The profound mysteries of the Nirvana law were sufficient to handle and nullify it!

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Lin Xun's abode was comparable to a small world, so the two didn't feel cramped when they sparred. The sound of collisions constantly resounded, but fortunately they tried to contain the power fluctuations and avoided causing damage to the cave haven.

A few moments later, Xia Zhi's attacks suddenly changed as her spear became filled with the force of time. The means she used also shifted.

However, Lin Xun's Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer was originally an innate talent that used the power of time, so he was not afraid of its invasion.

Seeing that she couldn't cause any damage to him after such a long time, Xia Zhi suddenly took a deep breath and said, "Lin Xun, I recently made a breakthrough and grasped a forbidden art related to fate called Mortal Calamity. Do you want to give it a go?"

A forbidden art concerning fate!

Lin Xun shook his head right away. What kind of joke was this? Fate was a supreme dao that all cultivators treated most cautiously. Even Eternal figures wouldn't recklessly declare that they had full control over their destiny!

Seeing his reaction, Xia Zhi directly put away her spear and said, "If so, then I have no way to beat you."

Obviously, Mortal Calamity was her strongest move. Unless she used it, she couldn't do anything to him with her current cultivation.

However, Lin Xun was already plenty shaken. He was now unrivaled on the Immortal path, on a level where even Eternal Will Dharma Forms could no longer pose a threat to him. Despite that, Xia Zhi had just displayed fighting prowess that was not much inferior to his!

True, he hadn't used any of his innate abilities or even his dao bodies, but Xia Zhi also had a trump card she hadn't used either—one related to the dao of fate at that! How could this not surprise him?

At the end of the day, he knew very well that rather than saying she had been cultivating, it was more like she had been refining the power sealed inside her by her original self.

To her, the cultivation levels no longer mattered. She only needed to absorb her own past power, and her battle strength would continue to rise until it returned to the heights she had once reached!

Similarly, the reason for Xia Zhi's heaven-defying fighting prowess wasn't in the strength of her foundation, but in the unrivaled daos that she had mastered. Such as time, karma, and...fate!

The power of supreme daos like them, when used in battle, erupted with a might that was simply inconceivably terrifying. If Lin Xun didn't grasp the Nirvana law, even he would be hard-pressed to resist her attacks!

“Xia Zhi, for the next period of time, I still need to dive into cultivation.” Ending the battle, Lin Xun talked about business, “If you get bored, just take a walk outside, as long as you don't leave the Origin World.”

Xia Zhi did not think twice. “I'll stay with you.”

Lin Xun was stunned for a moment, then said, “Alright, then.”

Other than him, Xia Zhi never cared about anything in this world.

“By the way, I took in a disciple ten years ago. I haven't checked on her since, so do you want to accompany me to see her?” suggested Lin Xun.

Xia Zhi naturally had no objection.

.....

On the training platform of the Ninth Peak, a black-clothed young girl was practicing martial arts. She looked to be around fifteen to sixteen years of age. Her skin was snow white and smooth, her small face was defined and beautiful, her black hair was tied into a ponytail, and her eyes were bright as stars.

She was holding a bronze spear, her movements sharp and swift. She radiated the aura belonging to the Saint Stage.

The young girl was none other than Tang Jiang. Ten years was a snap of the fingers for Lin Xun, but for Tang Jiang, it had allowed her to grow from a child with pigtails into a graceful young girl with a valiant and charming air.

Not far away, a crowd of Ninth Peak disciples were watching her. From time to time, they would cheer and applaud.

Most of these disciples had watched Tang Jiang grow up and loved her like a little sister. Over the years, they had worked together to teach her about cultivation and point her to the correct path.

Thanks to that coupled with the unsparing cultivation resources Mo Lanshan had piled on her, in just ten years, Tang Jiang went from a clueless little girl to a Saint-King with an incomparably solid foundation.

This was already after Mo Lanshan had deliberately suppressed her speed. Otherwise, her breakthroughs would have been even faster.

After all, this was the Origin Sect, one of the Four Great Ancestral Courts of supreme status in the Eternal Stage. Anyone under the heavens dreamed of cultivating in this sacred paradise.

In order to join the Origin Sect, one needed to first reach the bare minimum by attaining the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage, then one would have to wait for the disciple selection and pass it to successfully become a member. Therefore, Tang Jiang was undoubtedly a special case.

With the company of these Ninth Peak disciples, where the weakest were still supreme Emperor Ancestors, as well as a peak master like Mo Lanshan taking care of her, it would be strange if her cultivation didn't improve at a leaping pace.

When Lin Xun saw Tang Jiang from afar, whose appearance had changed so much, a hint of reminiscence surfaced in his eyes. Ten years had undoubtedly changed her greatly.

“Greetings, Deputy Pavilion Master Lin!”

Many of the disciples around the platform noticed Lin Xun and solemnly bowed and saluted. Everyone's face was filled with awe and heartfelt respect.

Tang Jiang stopped in the middle of her move and turned around abruptly. Seeing the familiar figure in the distance, her beautiful eyes widened. Only after a long daze did she hastily salute, “Disciple Tang Jiang greets Master!”

Chapter 2937 Yan Ji’s Invitation

During the past ten years, Tang Jiang would often think of her master who had brought her into the Origin Sect. She was no longer the ignorant child she had been at the time, knowing how high her master’s status was in the Origin Sect and how powerful he was.

Even Peak Master Mo, who doted on her the most, would reveal a look of complete respect when talking about her master. She had also learned of his many past deeds, such as how he had joined the Origin Sect after ranking first in the examination, and how he had gradually risen to prominence over the years.

He was a legend!

Occasionally, Tang Jiang even felt like she was dreaming. When she was little, her constitution had been weak and deemed incapable of cultivation. Who could have thought that in just ten years, she had undergone a transformative change?

Furthermore, her master was almost a mythical legend who was renowned through the heavens! Everything seemed too unreal. Tang Jiang feared that she would wake up one day and find that it was all just a dream.

“Good progress,” Lin Xun praised as he and Xia Zhi walked side by side toward Tang Jiang, who had grown to his shoulders. “When cultivating, uphold your heart. Don't be overly ambitious, but don't underestimate your own capability either.”

Tang Jiang nodded fiercely. “Yes, Master.”

“These are some of my cultivation insights, maybe you can learn something from them.” Lin Xun handed Tang Jiang a jade slip that he had long prepared. “Remember, as my personal insights, they may not all be suitable for you.”

Tang Jiang hastily accepted it with both hands and a radiant smile. “You are the best, Master. I will not let you down!”

Lin Xun laughed, “Cultivation is a personal thing. As long as you are happy with what you achieve, I won't be disappointed no matter what height you reach in the future. Don't put any pressure on yourself.”

Next, Lin Xun went to Mo Lanshan and chatted for a while before returning with Xia Zhi.

On the way back, Xia Zhi suddenly said, “There's something strange about that little girl's fate.”

Lin Xun's pupils constricted. “What did you see?”

Xia Zhi said, “In what I perceived, her past karma has been erased from her. She feels like she is a dead person with all traces of her past dissipated. Her karmic bonds were all recently created in these ten years. Her fate has also been completely turned around and is impossible to deduce.”

Lin Xun's heart trembled. He recalled the scene when Tang Jiang had been brought back from the dead. Without a doubt, the little girl had died back then, so all her karma had been erased. Then, he had come along and opened up a whole new destiny for her, all thanks to the Nirvana law!

Lin Xun couldn't help but ask, “Is this a good or a bad thing?”

Xia Zhi said without thinking, “Of course it's a good thing. It means that her cultivation path and destiny will be in her control and hers only. Whether it's her life or her death, they're all up to her. As you know, fate is an indefinite thing. Back in Omega Secret-Realm, you risked defying Heaven and only then altered your fate. That little girl went through a similar experience.”

After a pause, she continued, “The general cultivators usually follow similar courses of fate. No matter how high their dao achievements are, they will always be subjected to various tribulations on the almighty path so long as they have yet to certify eternity.

“The fortunate ones fight bravely and vigorously to overcome those tribulations. The unfortunate ones, on the other hand, almost always perish.”

Speaking of this, there was a hint of daze in Xia Zhi's clear eyes. “While it's simple to say, in fact, I still have no clue about the true profound principles of this grand dao of fate...”

Lin Xun laughed, “There's no rush. I'll take time to fathom its mysteries, step by step.”

In truth, his heart was unable to remain calm either.

The Nirvana law did more than simply ‘bring the dead back to life,’ it could also sever a person's past, reshape their fate, and give them a transformation that would change the course Heaven had set for them!

Change destiny! How taboo and terrifying was this power? Lin Xun couldn't help but lament, if he hadn't met his disciple Tang Jiang, he probably would never have discovered that the Nirvana law possessed such a miraculous ability.

Similarly, if it wasn't for Xia Zhi, he would never have realized how amazing the Nirvana law was for being able to resurrect the dead and defy Heaven to alter a person's fate!

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After returning to his abode, Lin Xun continued his seclusion.

Meanwhile, Xia Zhi remained by his side and carried out her routine of eating, sleeping, then eating, and sleeping again. She was as quiet as a clam, except for the occasions she chatted with him when he woke from his meditation.

After another eight years flowed by, Lin Xun entered the perfection stage of Transcendence. At this point, there was no more breakthrough to be made. The Eternal Stage was only one big step away!

It was also upon reaching this peak that all sorts of enlightenments dawned on him. His Eternal Supreme potential that had accompanied him through the three stages of Heavenly Longevity, Nirvana Spirit, and Transcendence, was unleashed in full at this moment and fused with his cultivation!

This was true fulfillment and perfection, a kind of supremacy came into being out of nowhere: On the path of immortality, I am invincible!

Lin Xun could clearly feel the perfection, freedom, and transcendence demonstrated in every bit of the power permeating him. It was as if he was a cauldron that melted all the daos into only one!

Compared to the advanced Transcendence Stage, reaching perfection allowed him to sublimate his entire dao into a whole new level.

Not to mention peak Transcendence old monsters, Lin Xun was confident that he could now easily take down Eternal Will Dharma Forms! This was an understanding from the heart, a judgment based on the deepest knowledge on his own strength, not arrogance.

At the same time, he had also spent the last eight years refining the Nirvana law to the eighty percent mark, allowing his Immortal law to advance further.

He clearly sensed that under the nourishment of his Immortal law, Little Immortal and Little Nether, both of which were law powers born in the last epoch, had been evolving. Currently, both of them faintly displayed the aura of ninth grade Heaven Rank.

What surprised Lin Xun the most was that these two still had more room for amazing growth!

Thanks to this discovery, he realized that Little Immortal and Little Nether, who used to govern the Immortal World and the Netherworld respectively, were both Divine Rank law powers. The ultimate forms at the end of their metamorphoses were destined to be connected to the Immortal dao and the Nether dao.

In the past, Lin Xun had been clueless about this all.

It was a pity that Wushuang wasn't here. Otherwise, his current mastery of the Nirvana law would be enough to easily deduce her full potential and mysteries.

In the same year that Lin Xun reached the peak Transcendence Stage, Tao Leng, who had been promoted to an Origin Sky Pavilion elder, paid him a visit.

Lin Xun instantly knew that something big had probably happened. Normally, no one would come to disturb his cultivation otherwise.

Sure enough, the moment Tao Leng saw him, he said with a serious expression, “My brother, Pavilion Master Yan Ji invites you and the other deputy pavilion masters to see him at the central hall.”

Lin Xun was surprised. “Pavilion Master Yan Ji is out of seclusion?”

Tao Leng said, “No, it's just his Will Dharma Form.”

Lin Xun nodded. After telling Xia Zhi to wait for him in the cave haven, he immediately headed to the central hall.

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In the grand central hall.

When Lin Xun arrived, Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, and the other deputy pavilion masters were already there. Yan Ji, whose thin figure was shrouded in a quaint vibe, was sitting casually on the main seat.

Swish!

Lin Xun had no sooner appeared outside the door than Yan Ji’s eyes fixed on him like a pair of torches, immediately followed by a look of surprise. “It’s been how many years, again? And you've already reached the perfection stage?”

As soon as these words came out, Xuan Feiling and the others were rattled, which showed on their faces. They hadn't noticed the change in Lin Xun's aura at all. If Yan Ji hadn't said anything, they probably wouldn't have known.

“Your eyes are ever discerning.” Lin Xun cupped his fist in greeting. He knew that he couldn't hide it from the other party.

Yan Ji smiled. “Last time you were in seclusion for forty-five years, you went from the initial stage of Transcendence to the advanced stage. This time you were in seclusion for eighteen years, you broke through the most difficult barrier of this realm and climbed to the peak. Such a speed is unprecedented in all history no matter where you look.”

Xuan Feiling sighed, “Alas, you have no idea, Old Monster Yan. Ever since this kid has stepped into the Transcendence Stage, I've been on edge every time we meet. It feels like he's riding on my neck.”

This was of course a joke. Everyone laughed out loud.

It wasn't until Lin Xun took his seat that Yan Ji commenced the meeting. “This time, I've summoned all of you here for one matter only. Half a year from now, Old You Beihai will attempt to realize eternity, so it's time we make some preparations in advance.”

Everyone's expression grew solemn.

Dugu Yong asked, “According to the estimation, isn't there still about three years?”

Yan Ji said, “When has there ever been an exact date for such things like cultivation tribulations? I was only informed of this when I went to check on Old You yesterday. Even he seemed a little caught off guard himself. Nonetheless, this is certainly a delightful event. After all, the opportunity to certify eternity has finally come for him.”

Xuan Feiling asked, “Then, what preparations are needed?”

Yan Ji said, “At that time, I will personally guard Old You. Your duty is the safety and security of the whole sect. If there are invasion attempts from foreign enemies, you must make sure they cannot overrun the Origin World. Otherwise, it will not only shake our foundation but also affect Old You's Eternal tribulation.”

Toward the end, his expression became serious.

“Several years ago, I went out to specifically investigate the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect. From what I gathered, it's certain that they won't miss this opportunity,” Fang Daoping said heavily.

The crowd reacted calmly as this was within their expectations.

Yan Ji asked, “Any news on the Eighth Heaven Domain?”

“They can barely protect themselves at the moment. Even if they wanted to join, they don't have that capacity,” replied Xuan Feiling. “The most puzzling thing right now is the attitude of those Eternal Divine Clans in the Ninth Heaven Domain. If they decide to get involved, many variables will arise, without a doubt.”

Yan Ji furrowed his brows. “We must make plans for this.”

Xuan Feiling nodded.

Finding the atmosphere somewhat dull, Yan Ji laughed, “No need to be overly anxious. When push comes to shove, we still have Taixuan and myself. If the situation really reaches the point of life or death, we will risk our lives with them!”

‘Consider first what to do if you fail, and only later consider what to do if you win,’ this was the most prudent approach.

Seeing that the seniors were going to say something else, Lin Xun suddenly spoke up, “Seniors, may I have a proposal?”

Chapter 2938 Enemy Army at the Thousand Star Sea

Yan Ji, Xuan Feiling, and the rest were all stunned. They all turned toward Lin Xun to see what he had to say.

Lin Xun calmly continued, “From today, put me to guard the Thousand Star Sea alone.”

The elders revealed surprised looks.

The entrance to the Origin World was located at the Thousand Star Sea. Back then, Lin Xun had crossed this sea to its furthest area, where he had taken part in the examination conducted in Absolute Sunder City and earned the qualification to join the Origin Sect.

It could be said that the Thousand Star Sea was the first line of defense of the Origin World. Once a human disaster struck, the enemy would definitely appear there.

However, Lin Xun suggested that he would guard the Thousand Star Sea all by himself. Without a question, he was expressing his wish to be stationed at the front line and protect the Origin Sect's entrance on his own!

“No, that’s too risky.” Yan Ji shook his head.

As he was about to give a dissuasive reason, Lin Xun interrupted with a smile, “Under the Eternal Stage, no one is my match. Therefore, it's most appropriate for me to guard the Thousand Star Sea.”

After a pause, he turned to Xuan Feiling and the others, “Please don't try to talk me out of it, my mind is made up.”

Xuan Feiling’s group narrowed their eyes, their emotions tumbling. They could all see that it was impossible to dissuade Lin Xun.

“Isn't there still half a year left, why are you in such a hurry?” Yan Ji frowned. “If we really let you go out there alone, our enemies will mock us for having no experts.”

Lin Xun laughed, “Senior, no further persuasion is needed.”

Yan Ji went silent for a moment before he said, “If you run into danger, you have to retreat into the sect right away.”

Lin Xun clasped his fist and nodded.

“Look at this kid. The stronger he gets, the more stubborn he is. He won't even listen to us old timers now,” Xuan Feiling teased.

“It can't be helped, we're to blame since even all of us combined can't beat him,” Dugu Yong sighed.

The others couldn't hold back their laugh. Despite making it a lighthearted joke, they knew it was true. In the current Origin Sect, Lin Xun was indeed the number one deputy pavilion master in terms of combat prowess. Under the Eternal Stage, he ruled!

“Old Xuan.” Yan Ji looked at Xuan Feiling and the others. “I’d like you guys to go in person and gather all the major clans in our sect. Please make sure to bring all of them into the Heavenly Origin Secret Realm before Old You’s Eternal tribulation arrives. “

The Heavenly Origin Secret Realm, created from the Origin Sect's Divine Rank law power, was the core ground and the safest place in the sect.

Xuan Feiling’s group nodded solemnly.

“The disciples of the Nine Peaks and Three Pavilions as well, anyone who's below the Transcendence Stage, get them all inside the Heavenly Origin Secret Realm. As for the rest, they will be guarding the sect with us,” Yan Ji added.

“Leave it to us,” said Xuan Feiling.

On that day, Xuan Feiling’s group commenced their plan. Lin Xun, on the other hand, left the Origin Sect by himself.

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The Thousand Star Sea, where the rolling waves were as if boundless.

Billions of stars adorned the cloudless sky above. Under their radiant shine, the mysterious sea resembled an eternal, sacred land. In fact, this had always been a forbidden place to the outside world, covered by law power. Without the permission of the Origin Sect, no cultivators could enter.

At the center of the Thousand Star Sea stood an ancient city. Bathed in the clear light of the countless stars, the city wall looked like it was made of a divine metal, radiating a majestic atmosphere.

Absolute Sunder City, built by the Origin Sect's founding ancestor Yuan Chu using ten thousand types of immortal divine materials!

At the center of the city, there was a building shaped like a divine sword piercing into the sky! This was the Absolute Sunder Sword Palace. The platform before it was where the recruit exam that Lin Xun had participated in had started.

Close to a hundred years had gone in a blink since then. Nowadays, as a deputy pavilion master of Origin Sky Pavilion and a famous Transcendence existence, he was no longer the supreme Emperor Ancestor of back then.

On the highest floor of the Absolute Sunder Sword Palace, Lin Xun was leaning on the railing, looking out. From this spot, one could take in the vast ocean in all directions. The light sprinkled by countless stars drifted on the surface of the seawater, quiet and distant.

“Xia Zhi, there will soon be a war above this sea.”

After half a day, Lin Xun withdrew his gaze and looked at Xia Zhi, who was standing quietly next to him. “If you want to fight with me, you must promise me one thing first.”

Xia Zhi didn't miss a beat. “What is it?”

Lin Xun said seriously, “If a fatal danger occurs, you must not stand in front of me.”

Xia Zhi was silent for a moment before she replied, “Okay.”

Lin Xun smiled. “Of course, that's just in case. With our battle prowess today, unless an Eternal figure strikes in person, no one in this world can threaten us.”

Speaking of this, a sentimental look spread on his face. In the past, whenever he and Xia Zhi had encountered perils, they had mostly evaded and fled, and even if they had been able to defuse the danger, it had been at a hefty price. However, it was a whole different story now!

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Half a month later, a piece of news spread throughout the world.

“The Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect have joined forces, demanding the Origin Sect to hand over Disciple Lin Xun of Fangchun Mountain, or else, within a month, they will go to the Origin Sect and capture him!”

It was a stone that raised a thousand waves, especially for the major forces in the Seventh Heaven Domain who were the first to receive the news.

“Back then, the Ten Clans Alliance also tried to deal with Lin Xun, but there were rumors that their forces suffered heavy casualties in the Sixth Heaven Domain. Who would have thought that the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect would band up to deal with him as well?!” Someone trembled.

“This world is going to be in chaos after all!”

“The Four Great Ancestral Courts possess transcendent status and terrifying depths. Now, except the Spirit Sect, the other three are showing their fangs toward each other. If a war breaks out, it will surely impact the entire world!”

“I wonder if the Ten Clans Alliance will get involved...”

All sorts of discussions arose. The declaration of war by the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect sowed tension and pressure into the situation of all the domains.

As day passed after day, more and more news came out.

“The Zen Sect Ancestral Court has gathered a group of Transcendence powerhouses, raring to go! It's rumored that this force will be led by Buddha Venerable Ji Kong!”

“A host of Earth Shamans have been deployed from the Shaman Sect Ancestral Court. There are over twenty old monsters at the perfect Transcendence Stage alone, so I've heard!”

“It's said that one of the Origin Sect's pavilion masters is about to certify eternity, and when that time comes, their Divine Rank law power won't be able to protect the Origin World anymore!”

“The Origin Sect is in danger!”

The sensation took over the world. Countless cultivators from all the big factions felt their hearts quiver in fear.

For countless years, the Four Great Ancestral Courts had stood tall in the world, assuming a status so lofty that even the Ten Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain were apprehensive of them to an extent.

Who had dared to imagine that such a conflict would arise between the Origin Sect, the Shaman Sect, and the Zen Sect? Once such a conflict erupted into something bigger, the effects would definitely ripple throughout the Eternal True Realm!

A month flew by on the shores of the Thousand Star Sea.

On this day, the sky was crystal clear. There was suddenly a buzz. The void fluctuated and revealed a group of figures, male and female, old and young. Each of them was shrouded in a surging and monstrous aura that made them intimidating beyond comparison.

It was a group of Transcendence experts! As many as sixty of them!

The man at the very front of the group was clad in a black suit. With his hands placed on his back, he emanated a rampant aura as dark as eternal night. He looked old and withered, and his eyes were filled with the turbid and vicissitudes of life.

The moment he appeared, the originally clear sky was smudged with a touch of darkness. Black clouds began to form and spread, filling the air with an endless breath of catastrophe.

Earth Shaman Tu Muhun!

Behind him were twenty-four peak Transcendence and thirty-five advanced Transcendence figures. Counting him, there were a total of sixty experts.

Of note, even the number one Immortal Giant Wang Clan had only produced nine peak Transcendence Immortals after eons. Meanwhile, just the Shaman Sect alone was dispatching as many as twenty-four peak Transcendence experts!

From this, one could see how horrifying its depths were as one of the Four Great Ancestral Courts.

Tu Muhun had his hands on his back as he gazed at the distant stretch of ocean. His voice was hoarse and low, “This is the Thousand Star Sea, where the Origin Sect's lair is located.”

The others were also surveying the Thousand Star Sea. They all sensed an obscure law power covering its boundless expanse.

“In a short while, it will be time for You Beihai to attempt to certify eternity. That's when his Eternal tribulation will descend and severely suppress the Divine Rank law power protecting the Origin Sect. That will also be the best time for us to kill our way in.”

After a long silence that ensued, Tu Muhun murmured with utter indifference in his murky eyes, “But before that, perhaps we can have a friendly talk with the Origin Sect.”

The eyes of the crowd flickered, and it seemed they knew what Tu Muhun was going to do next.

“I, humble Earth Shaman Tu Muhun, have led a group of fellow disciples to pay a visit today!” Tu Muhun announced, his deep and hoarse voice thundered through the region as it reached deep into the Thousand Star Sea.

Atop Absolute Sunder Sword Palace, Lin Xun opened his eyes amidst meditation, an icy flash crossing his pupils.

Paying a visit? An ill-intent visit you mean!

He was about to respond when he heard a sneer ringing out of nowhere. “Tu Muhun, spare the phoney formalities at this point, won't you? Just state your intentions!” Along with the voice, Xuan Feiling materialized beside Lin Xun.

The latter was stunned. “Senior, didn't we agree to leave me in charge of this place?”

Xuan Feiling chuckled. “The war hasn’t started, has it? I just want to see what these old shaman bastards are up to.”

Lin Xun said helplessly, “Then feel free.”

On the shore of the Thousand Star Sea, Tu Muhun's eyes stirred with a terrifying gleam. “Xuan Feiling, since you're here, I'll get to the point. As long as the Origin Sect hands over Lin Xun, I'll take my people and leave immediately.”

His voice rumbled outward.

“What if we refuse?” Xuan Feiling said leisurely, conversing with the other party across the distance.

Tu Muhun said expressionlessly, “Then I fear that in the future, there will be no more Origin Sect Ancestral Court in this world!”

His voice was stern and infinitely murderous, causing one's heart to shudder.

Hearing that, Xuan Feiling sank into a moment of silence. Suddenly, he threw his head back and roared with laughter. “You Shaman Sect people are truly arrogant. Go on, then, kill your way in if you have the guts!”

His voice reeked of mockery and contempt.

The expressions of the Shaman Sect group instantly seethed with uncontrollable killing intent.

Chapter 2939 You Beihai

Tu Muhun was unfazed as he said, “If verbal jabs can work everything out, what's the use of having a cultivation base? Since your Origin Sect insists on sheltering Lin Xun, we don't mind waiting here for a while.”

Having said that, he sat cross-legged on a seaside rock and closed his eyes. The other experts of his party followed suit, casually sitting down with a calm demeanor.

In the Absolute Sunder Sword Palace, Xuan Feiling frowned as he talked to Lin Xun, “The Shaman Sect has only sent twenty-four peak Transcendence experts and thirty-six advanced Transcendence experts, so it seems, but they dare to clamor at our door like that. I'm afraid they've prepared something else.”

Lin Xun wondered, “They can't really be waiting for Eternal reinforcements?”

Xuan Feiling mused. “That might be a possibility, but don't worry, Eternal figures will be subjected to the heavenly law and suffer backlash here. If it were any other time, that kind of damage wouldn't be a big deal to them, but don't forget that the epochal calamity is imminent. Getting injured at a time like this will pose a great risk to any Eternal character.”

Lin Xun contemplated, “In that case, they are able to use the power of the Eternal Stage, but they will definitely not use it readily, right?”

Xuan Feiling laughed, “That's natural, just like the case with our sect. If we really encountered a matter of life and death, do you think that Pavilion Master Taixuan, who is trapped on his own accord in the Wuxuan Forbidden Land, would sit back and do nothing?”

Lin Xun nodded, indicating that he understood.

Xuan Feiling said, “The core purpose of their action is simple: to take advantage of our situation to take your life and the Divine Rank law power in your possession. They themselves are well aware that without having an Eternal expert in the flesh, it's almost impossible to raze our sect.”

After a pause, Xuan Feiling added, “It’s the same for the Zen Sect.”

Lin Xun exhaled a long breath and guaranteed, “I will definitely defend this place and make sure they stop here.”

Xuan Feiling patted his shoulder. “Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Remember that the whole sect will accompany you every step of the way.”

Xuan Feiling left shortly after. Lin Xun’s thoughts went to Third Senior Sister’s group in the Spirit Sect. If they learned of the situation here and went out to come to his aid, there would likely be unexpected variables, and that was what he was most worried about.

On the surface, the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect were joining forces to deal with the Origin Sect, but what if this was just a front, and they were actually using him to lure out his senior brothers and sisters? By capturing them, the enemy would have leverage against him!

By the same token, if the same thing were to happen to the Spirit Sect and Lin Xun went to their rescue, many variables would probably arise as a result.

I just hope that Third Senior Sister and the others remain calm and stay out of this...

Lin Xun muttered in his heart.

.....

Day after day went by.

On the shore of Thousand Star Sea, Tu Muhun and a bunch of other Shaman Sect experts had been waiting quietly. There wasn't a more direct threat than stationing an army right outside the enemy's base!

Word of the situation at Thousand Star Sea quickly spread throughout the world, making it known that the Shaman Sect force was ready for the right time and that a big battle would break out at any moment!

This news also speedily reached the Spirit Sect.

“We and the Origin Sect have always been on good terms. How can we be indifferent when something like this happens?” Spirit Venerable Qing Yun was astonished.

He didn't expect that Ruo Su, after learning about the concert operation of the Shaman and the Zen Sect, would find him and express her hope that the Spirit Sect wouldn't make any moves to help the Origin Sect.

“This is most likely a trap,” explained Ruo Su. “Or rather, the true purpose of the Shaman Sect and Zen Sect this time is not to start a war with the Origin Sect, but instead to get me and my brothers and sisters of Fangchun Mountain. Only by capturing us will they be able to threaten my little junior brother into doing their bidding.”

Qing Yun's eyes glinted. “But aren't you worried that you may have got it wrong? In that case, both your little junior brother and the Origin Sect may be subjected to great hardship alone.”

Ruo Su smiled. “There's no point in worrying. I just know that as long as we make no slip-ups here, they won't be affected.”

After a brief pause, she continued, “Besides, if they really needed help, my little junior brother would have already sent us a message.”

After some silence, Qing Yun finally said, “I won't hide it from you, then. Not long ago, I received a message from Fang Daoping telling our Spirit Sect not to intervene. I found it a bit strange at the time, but now it seems that whether it's the Origin Sect or your junior brother, they have already been prepared.”

Ruo Su's eyes lit up. “So to speak, our sect has also been informed in advance?”

Qing Yun nodded. “When You Beihai undergoes his tribulation, we will send a portion of our elders there to observe. So, don't you and the other Fangchun Mountain disciples go and leave on your own.”

Ruo Su agreed after a brief thought.

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There was only half a month left until You Beihai’s Eternal tribulation. On the shore of Thousand Star Sea, Tu Muhun and the others of the Shaman Sect sensed a spatial fluctuation. Immediately following, a group of majestic figures clad in monk's robes and straw sandals appeared in the air. Each of them looked dignified and solemn.

It was clearly a group of big names from the Zen Sect. Their leader had snow-white beard and a thin figure, which was draped in a patched-up robe. His sunken cheeks were full of wrinkles, and his chapped skin was bronze colored.

Buddha Venerable Jikong! Known as the number one buddha of the Zen Sect, he had certified his dao hundreds of thousands of years ago, making him a living fossil from antiquity.

Behind Jikong was a group of Zen Sect's powerhouses whose number was around that of the Shaman Sect’s group present.

“Didn't get them?” Tu Muhun asked in a hoarse voice.

Jikong shook his head. “The Spirit Sect never made a move. It was a long, futile wait, so I had to abort.”

Tu Muhun frowned. “So, there's no possibility to capture those Fangchun Mountain disciples in the Spirit Sect and use them against Lin Xun...”

“Underhanded schemes are inherently a narrow road.” Jikong's withered, somber face was nothing but calm. “Now that it's proved unhelpful, time to switch to the more upright measures.”

Tu Muhun snorted. “The trickery was proposed by your Zen Sect. You're slapping your own face.”

“Spacious or narrow, roads are roads,” commented an unperturbed Jikong, who then gazed at the distant Thousand Star Sea. “Since our courts are joining hands, the Origin Sect must be ready to fight with all their might. How much chance of victory do you think we have with the force at our command, Brother Tu?”

“We do our best and leave the rest to fate,” Tu Muhun flatly said. “As long as their Eternal characters stay still, no one can protect Lin Xun this time!”

Jikong calmly said, “The Master of Fangchun Mountain spent ages planning for this unprecedented lotus. If such an Eternal Supreme being is allowed to certify eternity, he is destined to cause great chaos, and the ones to bear the brunt of it will be our two ancestral courts.”

The Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect both viewed Fangchun Mountain as their archenemy, and this was by no means without a reason.

Tu Muhun said, “His current battle strength is already enough to be a fatal threat to us old timers. He's indeed a tough nut to crack...”

Back in the old days, who among them would pay attention to such a young cultivator? But now, someone like that had grown to be a calamity within their bosoms. No one had anticipated this.

After a short silence, Jikong said, “Every member of the Ten Clans Alliance had deployed the Will Dharma Forms of their Eternal figures to the Sixth Heaven Domain, but without exception, none of them could do anything to him... In your opinion, how should we seize and kill Lin Xun under these circumstances?”

Tu Muhun said expressionlessly, “No one else saw the battles in the Sixth Heaven Domain with their own eyes. Lin Xun possesses the invincible power in this stage, but be that as it may, it's impossible for him to destroy an Eternal Will Dharma Form. He must have been aided by a senior expert of the Origin Sect to achieve that feat.”

He paused briefly and continued, “But the situation here is different. We are right outside the Origin Sect, meaning the threat Lin Xun poses, on the contrary, is the smallest to us. The ones we should be wary of are those old things.”

Jikong asked, “What should be done if Pavilion Master Taixuan acts?”

Tu Muhun squinted, then he blandly said, “If he dares come out, there will be someone to deal with him.”

Jikong said, “Looks like you're well prepared, Brother Tu.”

“As if your Zen Sect isn’t,” Tu Muhun coldly grunted. “Without anything as backup, which of us can swallow this fat piece of meat that is the Origin Sect?!”

Jikong sank into a long silence, then suddenly sighed, “I'm afraid that the greatest benefit will fall into the hands of someone who’s outside this game.”

“Someone uninvolved?” Tu Muhun frowned. “What do you mean?”

Jikong said, “Just a hunch. It won’t necessarily be true.”

“You people of the Zen Sect really love acting all mysterious.” Tu Muhun revealed a hint of disdain. “I don't care about what's inside or outside the game, the only thing I firmly believe in is power. As long as one is strong enough, one can crush everything.”

Jikong smiled faintly and said nothing more.

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Half a month later, Lin Xun, who was meditating at the top of Absolute Sunder Sword Palace, seemed to sense something and leapt to his feet. Almost simultaneously, a heavy and melodious bell sounded from within the Origin Sect, sending heaven and earth into utter silence.

Then, from a secret realm at the back of Origin Purity Mountain, a figure trod the air and came out, appearing under the sky dome as he looked up at it.

He wore a long, white robe. He looked like a youth whose skin was so fair it was almost crystalline, but the depths of his eyes surged with unfathomable dao light. A wooden sword was slung diagonally across his back. A red silk rope was tied to the hilt, dancing in the wind.

He stood casually like a god who was used to wandering freely between heaven and earth. There was an unrestrained and brilliant, proud air about him.

He was the Origin Clarity Pavilion Master, You Beihai!

As a relic who had dedicated countless years to secluded cultivation, as well as a legend on the dao of the sword, he, together with Taixuan, had been known forever as the 'Origin Sect's Two Supremes.'

"Old You, you can be at ease as you eternalize your dao today!" Yan Ji appeared at the horizon and said nonchalantly, "Pay nothing else any attention."

You Beihai gave a slight nod, and then, he extended his arm, drawing a stroke in the air with his finger. A shadow appeared in the depths of the originally clear sky. It proceeded to spread until it engulfed the entire day.

The world swiftly fell into darkness!

Boom!

At the same time, the law power covering the Origin World began to shake violently as if being faced with a great threat.

Chapter 2940 Paranoid

The sky suddenly darkened. An invisible hint of tribulation spread, oppressing to the point of suffocating. Under the dark dome, You Beihai stood with his hands on his backs. His clothes fluttered while he remained quiet and motionless.

Xuan Feiling and the other deputy pavilion masters looked up, unavoidably feeling a little nervous. The tribulation was descending. Pavilion Master You Beihai would eternalize his dao today!

“Is everything prepared?” asked Xuan Feiling.

Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, and the others nodded in unison. Aside from Transcendence experts, the rest of the Origin Sect, as well as the clansmen of the various clans dwelling here, had long been moved to the Heavenly Origin Secret Realm.

At present, the Origin World was cold and empty.

“Good job. From this moment on, us Transcendence fellows will stay and guard the Origin World. No matter what happens, we mustn't let anyone foil Pavilion Master You's tribulation.” Xuan Feiling had a resolute look in his eyes.

The other deputy pavilion masters all nodded and launched into action. Meanwhile, Xuan Feiling traveled outside of the Origin World as he was still worried about Lin Xun's safety.

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Above the Thousand Star Sea, atop Absolute Sunder Sword Palace, Lin Xun also looked up. The originally spotless sky was now completely covered by thick, inky black tribulation clouds. It was as if one merely blinked to find that heaven and earth had fallen into endless darkness.

The mentally oppressing energy of calamity seemed omnipresent, causing a layer of chill to rise all over Lin Xun. The world was terrifyingly quiet. Even the water of Thousand Star Sea had fallen into absolute stillness, without a trace of wind and waves to be seen.

The only active thing was the tribulation clouds blanketing the day. They kept getting thicker and thicker, and the sky kept getting darker and darker...

A heavy look crossed Lin Xun's face. What he was seeing was no doubt the Eternal tribulation belonging to Origin Clarity Pavilion Master You Beihai, and it was inconceivably horrifying.

Even though Lin Xun had undergone his fair share of unimaginably bizarre tribulations, and had overcome many historically unprecedented ones, his heart was still pounding at this moment.

Eternity was a realm that was simply legend in the eyes of the countless beings in existence! Even to cultivators on the Immortal path, eternity was like a moat that was almost impossible to cross!

Old monsters like Xuan Feiling, Fang Daoping, and Dugu Yong had reached the peak of Transcendence tens of thousands of years ago, but so far none had been able to certify eternity. This situation was also common in the other three great ancestral courts and the Ten Immortal Giants.

The reason was simple: The threshold of eternity was too high, high enough to remain difficult to touch for even peak Transcendence existences!

Once a cultivator attained eternity, they no longer feared the plague of epochal changes. They would also be able to wield and control the heavenly laws, which put them on the same level as the Creator!

Although Lin Xun was now a peak Transcendence Immortal, he...had not a clue on how to realize eternity. However, he was not in a hurry. Having just stepped into the perfect stage, he had plenty of opportunities to explore the mysteries of the Eternal dao in the future.

Boom!

Suddenly, a violent rumble exploded amidst heavens and earth. It wasn't a tribulation thunder because the Eternal tribulation targeting You Beihai had yet to strike.

Lin Xun noticed the law power covering the Thousand Star Sea started fading at an astonishing speed...

“Even a Divine Rank law ends up getting dominated by the energy of this Eternal tribulation. Just how powerful must it be?” he lamented.

He then turned around, his abyss-like eyes gazing at the distant shore.

“Xia Zhi,” he softly called out.

Xia Zhi, who was sitting next to him and crunching on melon seeds, lifted her head. Two words were written in her clear eyes: ‘Something wrong?’

She didn't seem to care at all about the coming Eternal tribulation, nor was she bothered by the collapsing law power all over the Thousand Star Sea. As long as she was by Lin Xun's side, the sky could collapse and still wouldn’t attract a single ounce of her attention.

“The enemy is coming. Get ready to follow my orders,” whispered Lin Xun.

“Alright.” Xia Zhi stored the aeth melon seeds in her hand and decided that she would destroy these tasty little things after the battle was over.

She stood up. Her delicate figure was still clad in a long, black robe. Her stunning face that could steal color from the world was hidden under the brim of her hat, only revealing her fair chin. At some point, the white bone spear had appeared in her slender jade hand. Standing side by side with Lin Xun, she gazed into the distance.

There, the void started rippling, creating energy waves that violently surged to the sky, breaking the dead silence in the air. A heavy and oppressive atmosphere spread like a tsunami, crushing the sea surface in its wake. Raging waves roared and tumbled. The space fabric began to show visible signs of disorder.

Immediately following, groups and groups of figures came whistling from the far horizon. Each individual was magnificent with monstrous might. The auras of Immortal dao they radiated illuminated the darkness created by the tribulation.

They were the Shaman Sect experts led by Tu Muhun and the Zen Sect experts led by Jikong. The weakest of them was in the advanced Transcendence Stage! Together, these two great ancestral courts made up a force of over a hundred people. Their combined might wrecked the terrains and caused quakes wherever they passed.

It was a lineup right out of horror, one that the Ten Immortal Giants in the Eighth Heaven Domain wouldn't be able to stop even if they gathered every last one of their members. However, Lin Xun appeared calm as usual when he saw them.

Xia Zhi, on the other hand, seriously counted and asked, “Wanna have a match to see who can kill more?”

Lin Xun was stunned. His expression then instantly turned serious as he said, “Don't be careless, they must have prepared enough trump cards to threaten you and me.”

Only when it concerned Xia Zhi's safety was he somewhat nervous.

“Are you scared?” Xia Zhi asked.

Lin Xun shook his head. “I'm only worried about you.”

Xia Zhi said, “Then I'll just fight alongside you.”

Lin Xun was relieved. “That would be best.”

Far away, the allied force of the two great ancestral courts stopped advancing. Scanning Absolute Sunder City in unison, they immediately noticed the presence of Lin Xun and Xia Zhi. Their pupils constricted slightly as it caught them off guard.

“Lin Xun?” Tu Muhun exclaimed. “What was the Origin Sect thinking, putting the two of you to guard this place?”

This was really out of their expectation. They had thought that in order to get to Lin Xun, they would have to first kill their way into the Origin Sect and then go through various obstacles. To think that they would see him right at Thousand Star Sea outside the Origin World! On top of that, there was only Lin Xun and another woman in the huge Absolute Sunder City!

Jikong raised his brows. “It is indeed strange.”

Lin Xun asked calmly, “What’s the problem, aren't you here for me? Why are you hesitating now?”

“Hesitating? No, we just didn't expect the Origin Sect to be so straightforward... Could it be that they have decided to sacrifice you, a Fangchun remnant, so that You Beihai can certify eternity without worry?” Tu Muhun's eyes gleamed intimidatingly. His senses picked up no other presence in this sea other than Lin Xun and Xia Zhi.

“Wrong,” Lin Xun flatly said. “As far as the Origin Sect is concerned, I alone am enough to handle you, so there's no need to trouble anyone else.”

A Shaman Sect elder sneered, “Pompous brat!”

“Everyone, I have inspected the surrounding area with my secret technique. There aren't any ambushes, so we can let go and focus on this man!” another said murderously.

Despite this, none of them took action. The scene in front of them was too abnormal. Knowing that they had come for Lin Xun, the Origin Sect actually had him stationed outside the Origin World. Who wouldn't be surprised?

Behind abnormalities like this, there had to be an intention!

“Hahahahaha.”

At the top of Absolute Sunder Sword Palace, Lin Xun burst out laughing at the sky. Even he hadn't expected that him guarding this place would make a bunch of old monsters so paranoid that they didn't dare to make a move! For a while, the heavens and earth were filled with his mocking laughter.

Tu Muhun, Jikong, and the others couldn't help but frown. Has the Origin Sect really...abandoned him?

This would be a great thing if it was true, but who could guarantee it wasn't a conspiracy?

Xia Zhi was confused. “Lin Xun, why are you so happy?”

Lin Xun said, “I'm just laughing at these old coots. To think that the longer they live, the smaller their guts get.”

Xia Zhi asked seriously, “Isn't it normal for them to be afraid of us two?”

Lin Xun was stunned. That’s actually one way to read it, isn't it?!

He broke into laughter again and nodded repeatedly. “That indeed appears to be the case.”

The fact that they bantered as if no one else was here and the implication in their words made the expressions of Tu Muhun’s group darken.

“Who cares what trick he’s playing? I'm going!” A Shaman Sect relic stepped forward. He was built like a mountain and had stark-white hoops made of beast bone hanging from his ears. His flesh and skin steamed with terrifying totemic dao light.

Lu Cha, a peak Transcendence Earth Shaman!

Kaboom!

He strode through the air like a domineering and savage deity. Wherever he passed, the void rumbled and cracked.

“Hmph!”

A long stick made of beast bone appeared in his hand, and he viciously smashed it toward Lin Xun from a great distance away.

Rumble!

A qi stick was deployed. It glided across the air while gushing with waterfalls of black Immortal law. From afar, it looked like a comet hurled from the heavens.

“Let me,” Xia Zhi said and shot out, swinging her bone spear.

BANG!

The black qi stick exploded, but Lu Cha revealed a sneer as it was just a feint. Seeing Xia Zhi sweeping in, his eyes flashed with killing intent. His wrist suddenly twisted, and the bone stick emitted a deafening, dull noise as it smashed out

Dragging up a tremendous momentum, the strike shook the region and shattered the void. The surrounding stretch of sea cracked into a deep gully. Matchless killing power surged out, making one's heart palpitate.

Xia Zhi did not evade. Instead, she took it head-on with her spear.

CLANG! The long stick and battle spear clashed in an earth-shattering explosion. A destructive torrent swept outward.

Lu Cha's mountainous frame staggered slightly, and he revealed a surprised look. This woman is very strong!

Not giving him time to think about it, Xia Zhi stabbed out. From her spear, the obscure power of karma and fate spread. In that instant, Lu Cha's heart shuddered. Guided by the alert of his danger sense, he instinctively dodged.

Poof!

The next second, there was a splash of scarlet blood. Lu Cha felt a sharp pain. He subconsciously looked down and saw a white spear in his chest! A look of disbelief appeared on his face. I didn't...avoid it? This...this can't be happening!